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SUBJECT: SPANISH MUSLIM LEADER'S 9-11 MESSAGE

Riay Tatary, President of the Union of Spanish Islamic Communities (UCIDE), issued a statement on September 10 condemning terrorism to commemorate the 6th anniversary of the September 11 attacks. As the head of UCIDE, Tatary represents what is the most organized of a variety of somewhat poorly organized Islamic associations in Spain. UCIDE was also the group behind the creation and publication of the first Spanish textbook on Islam for use in Spanish schools. Text of the statement follows.

BEGIN TEXT OF STATEMENT:

Six years after that Black Tuesday
Written by UCIDE
Madrid, September 10, 2007

Several years having passed since the terrible attack of 9/11, which moved the entire world, today we reiterate anew that terrorism and its criminal acts against the civil population are expressly against the Islamic creed and that we must fight against these actors and ideologues in order to eradicate their expansion, which corrupts the hearts and minds of people all over the world, increases suffering of innocent victims, and generates more hatred.

Both the Koran and the Sunna (the only sources of Islam) prohibit and reject the very grave sin of killing another human being. The commission of such a transgression is equated with and compared to genocide and crimes against humanity.

We are all united in this pain, and we condemn all terrorist acts - whatever the armed band, whatever the ideology, without allowance for the use of demagogical terrorist discourse as a pretext for discrimination against wide sectors of the population.

In this, we want to reiterate our gratitude to all the people of Spain who, despite suffering the horrors of terrorist violence, have had the wisdom to discern and differentiate clearly that these terrorist attacks against civilians originate from a minority with inexplicable hatreds that have nothing to do with the whole of the national and international Muslim community, nor with the Islamic religion, and that all of these terrorist acts are against the law of God, for which reason we must always condemn them and work together to stop the violence at its very source.

END TEXT.

AGUIRRE